Patent number:	WO9847491	Also published as:
Publication date: Inventor: Applicant:	1998-10-29 ODIDI ISA (CA); ODIDI AMINA (CA) ODIDI ISA (CA); ODIDI AMINA (CA)	WO9847491 (A3) CA2286684 (A1)
Classification: - international: - european: Application number: Priority number(s):	A61K9/20; A61K9/20; (IPC1-7): A61K9/22 A61K9/20H6F2; A61K9/20K2 WO1998CA00274 19980403 US19970036551P 19970421	Cited documents: US5000962 EP0226884 EP0253490 EP0157695 US5015479

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Abstract of WO9847491

An extended release dosage composition of pharmaceutically active substances that have a water contact angle (theta) such that cos theta is between +0.9848 and -0.9848 presented as a matrix tablet containing the said pharmaceutically active substances, with/without suitable pharmaceutical excipients in intimate mixture with two groups of intelligent polymers having opposing wettability characteristics, one demonstrating a stronger tendency towards hydrophobicity and the other a stronger tendency towards hydrophilicity, the polymer combination being between the ratios of 1:50 and 50:1 amounts effective to control the release of said pharmaceutically active substances in a mathematically predictable manner, wherein the polymer demonstrating a stronger tendency towards hydrophobicity is not less than 5 % wt/wt and preferably between 5-70 % wt/wt of the final formulation composition. The intelligent polymers being ethylcellulose (EC) as a more strongly hydrophobic and hydroxyethylcellulose (HEC) and/or hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC) as more strongly hydrophilic (the ratio of HEC to HPMC being between 1:100 and 100:1). The matrix tablet is optionally coated with an enteric coat, 0-5 % - 15 % wt/wt to prevent the initial burst effect seen in such systems and to impart gastrointestinal tract (GIT) "stealth" characteristics especially in the presence of food.

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